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INFO GPM 03,SC 01,RSC 01,US-A 12,H 02,NSC 10,NSA 02,L 03,INR 07,P 01
CIA 04,DOD 01,SP 02,SS 35,SAH 02,ACDA 17,IO 21,AID 30,SAL 01,
NIC 01,RSR 01/179 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4492
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3763
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2138
AMCONSUL DANANG 716
CINCPAC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUB: HOANG CO BINH ELECTION RALLY

1. EVENING AUGUST 11 HOANG CO BINH-LIEN QUANG KHINH PRESIDENTIAL SLATE HELD CAMPAIGN RALLY IN HONG BANG THEATER. (CAMPAIGN RULES ALLOW INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES

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TO HOLD MEETINGS IN RESTAURANTS AND THEATERS.)

2. APPROXIMATELY FIVE HUNDRED PEOPLE ATTENDED, MANY OF THEM YOUTHS. THEY MAY HAVE BEEN DRAWN IN PART BY FILD SHOWING OF WORLD CUP SOCCER FINALS AFTER CAMPAIGN SPEECHES ENDED.

3. FOLLOWING GLOWING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY RUNNING-

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MATE KHINH, BINH M DE SHORT SPEECH. VIEWING OVERALL SITUATION WITH ALRM AND OUTLINING MAIN POINTS OF HIS PROGRAM. BINH CHARGED GOVERNMENT WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUANG TRI INCIDENT, AND REPEATED ALLEGATION THAT GVN INTENDED TO PACK AUDITORIUM FOR SCHEDULED HUE MEETING. REVIEWING HIS PROGRAM, BINH SAID HE WOULD MODIFY CERTAIN PROTIONS OF CONSTITUTION, WOULD "STABILIZE SITUATION", END MISUSE OF ARMED FORCES, REFORM EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, ETC. HE PROMISED CLOSE COOPERATION WITH FREE COUTRIES, ESPECIALLY ALLIES. WITH REGARD TO PEACE, BINH SAID IT MUST BE PRECEDED BY "VICTORY IN ALL AREAS". BUT DICTATOR SHIP IS UNACCEPTABLE AS ALTERNATIVE TO COMMUNISM. BUNH SAID HE DOES NOT AGREE WITH THOSE "WHO WOULD TALK PEACE

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WITH NLF." BINH NOTED THAT NA SPECIAL COMMITTEE VOTED TO OUST THIEU AND KY AND CHARGED THAT PRESSURE WAS PUT ON ASSEMBLY TO REVERSE THAT DECISION. IF THIEU AND KY SLATE IS ELECTED, "THEIR ELECTION IS ILLEGAL, AND NO ONE WILL APPROVE IT."

4. THAT SAID, BINH OPENED FLOOR TO QUESTIONS. ASKED WHAT HE MEANT BY "VICTORY BEFORE PEACE TALKS." BINH SAID HE MEANT VICTORY IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREAS AS WELL AS MILITARY. HE ADDED THAT HE DOES NOT ADVOCATE INCREASING MILITARY PRESSURE. PRESENCE OF ALLED FORCES IS VERY NECESSARY, BUT MORE EMPHASIS IS NEEDED ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FRONTS. ASKED WHETHER HE INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTRUE JOINT CAMPAIGN APPEARANCES , BINH SAID HE HAS NO FAITH IN GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE AFTER QUANG TRI AFFAIR", BUT WILL TRY TO DO SOME TRAVELLING USING HIS OWN FACILITIES. IN ANSWER TO OTHER QUESTIONS, BINH BLASTED GOVERNMENT FOR DEVALUING PIASTER, AND FOR HAVING TO IMPORT RICE. BINH WAS ASKED WHETHER HE BELIEVES ALLIES, ESPECIALLY AMERICANS, ARE SUPPORTING THIEU-KY. HE SAID THAT HE REALLY DID NOT KNOW, BUT THAT " AS FOR ME, SUPPORT OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IS ENOUGH."

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5. COMMENT: BINH'S AUGUST 11 RALLY GAVE HIM MORE EXPOSURE THAN HE WOULD BE LIKELY TO GET IN ANY JOINT MEETING. IN ADDITION, WHAT SUPPORT HE HAS IS PROBABLY LIMITED TO SAIGON AREA, PLUS ONE OR TWO OTHER NORTHERN REFUGEE REDOUBTS. BINH THEREFORE HAS LITTLE TO GAIN BY PARTICIPATING IN COUNTRY-WIDE JOINT CAMPAIGN TOUR, AND IS FREE TO CRITIZE GVN HANDLING OF IT WHILE CAMPAIGNING ON HIS OWN. BUNKER

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